

NORTHWEST CONNECTICUT PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION (NWCPOA)*

COMMENTS FOR THE CT LEGISLATIVE HOUSING COMMITTEE

IN OPPOSITION OF

RAISED SENATE BILL NO. 952 "An Act Concerning The Rights & Responsibilities of Landlords and Tenants Regarding Bed Bug Infestation"

AT THE FEBRUARY 28, 2013 PUBLIC HEARING

MERIDEN PUBLIC LIBRARY, 105 Miller St., Meriden, CT 06450 at 6:00 P.M.

By Leonard S. Campbell, MLA - NWCPOA President & Mary W. Campbell, CRA - NWCPOA Legislative Comm.

Good Evening Chairman Butler, Chairman Bartolmeo and other Housing Committee members. Safety & Security Committee Members.

Leonard & I are here tonight primarily about the bed bug bill Raised SB 952 to oppose it as currently written.

Although a few weeks ago we were encouraged to see that this year the one bed bug bill was titled "guidelines" and thought that given the hearing testimony of the February 19th hearing, that perhaps anything more on the issue would be continuing headed in even more towards that direction.

Although we find some improvements in Raised Bill No. 952, it contains a number of provisions that put requirements on landlords which should be removed given recent advances in bed bug elimination approaches and others which could be overly and unnecessarily counterproductive to the renting of properties:

- 1. Recently, there are several bed bug treatment products that have been further tested by accepted routs and means which have found effective in bed bug infestation elimination while safe to use enough for use directly by the public. Therefore them being applied by a pesticides applicator should be optional, rather than required. Stop Bugging Me! MAX, Bed Bug Bully, and Greenbug's products are among them. The latter's Greenbug for People is even featured on a Sierra Club Web for such.
- 2. Accordingly, it also should be optional whether or not a property owner hires a pest control expert
- 3. The provision requiring a landlord to give a 12 month disclosure of previous infestation of bed bugs to all prospective tenants should be removed.

Sincerely,

Leonard S. Campbell, MLA, NWCPOA President & Mary W. Campbell, CRA, NWCPOA Legislative Chairman